

September 29, 2006

To: Seattle City Council  
From: Barb Graff, Director  
Office of Emergency Management  
Subject: Emergency Management Budget Issues

Several budget issues have been proposed by various departments related to emergency management. The Office of Emergency Management is supportive of each of the following proposals.

**Office of Emergency Management - Pandemic Flu Preparedness:** up to \$200,000 for completion of a comprehensive plan and study of equipment or supplies needed City-wide for preparedness and \$250,000 for equipment or supplies. This is a one-time expense. The \$250,000 is separately appropriated in Finance General pending the results of the study.

The Office of Emergency Management has been coordinating the efforts of all City departments to anticipate and prepare for the effects of a pandemic influenza. The proposal would fund consultant assistance in finalizing the City's planning efforts and prioritizing the supplies and equipment deemed highest priority to address anticipated demand for service in a staff and commodity shortage situation. Based on that analysis, the highest priority items will be funded with the amount appropriated in Finance General.

**Human Services Department – Disaster Planning for Non-Profits:** \$50,000

This proposal funds technical disaster planning assistance to the human service providers that provide direct human services to the city's vulnerable populations. Having a plan in place will help to increase the resiliency of their services following a major emergency and, therefore, enable them to offer the community vital disaster relief services during and after an event. This need for consultant assistance was identified following the Nisqually earthquake. This is a one-time expense.

**Department of Planning and Development – Vulnerability Survey of Buildings and NIMS Training:** \$82,500

This proposal requests funding for two disaster preparedness-related activities. One is a survey of un-reinforced masonry (URM) buildings within the City (\$52,500). The other is to cover the costs of fully implementing National Incident Management System training (\$30,000). DPD would hire a consultant to conduct a survey of URM buildings in Seattle. This survey will help quantify the scope of the hazard posed by these buildings vulnerable to failure in earthquakes and help outline future steps to increase the safety of these buildings. As part of the citywide implementation of NIMS, staff who are expected to respond to an emergency are required to take one or more certification exams preceded by either a training class or self-study. The NIMS funding covers the training and staff time associated with these exams. These are one-time expenditures.

**Fleets and Facilities Department – Emergency Preparedness Manager:** \$92,000

This proposal funds an emergency preparedness manager position who would be responsible for developing and maintaining the City's resource management responsibilities of the City's disaster plan and will be the designated Resource Management Coordinator at

the Emergency Operations Center during a city-wide emergency. NIMS compliance requirements for 2007 and beyond include a comprehensive resource typing and management system incorporated, maintained, and practiced at the regional level. The department is responsible for substantial operations in support of emergency response – keeping utility and police/fire vehicles in service, emergency planning responsibilities for core facilities, and maintaining the city-wide security key card system, among others. FFD does not have management resources for this function presently. This is an on-going FTE.

**Seattle Fire Department – Emergency Preparedness Officer: \$142,000**

This proposal funds an emergency preparedness position (including vehicle costs) to effectively and efficiently plan for emergencies, coordinate with other agencies (city-wide, as well as coordination with regional, state and federal agencies) and represent the Fire Department on day to day emergency preparedness activities. The scope of activities which require Fire Department involvement has increased dramatically in planning for events which produce mass casualties including infectious diseases and acts of bio-terrorism. There has long been a need for closer coordination and training with the City's emergency management program. This is an on-going FTE.

cc: Doug Carey, Finance Department  
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